

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed and considered the comments of the Examiner in the Final Office Action of July 15, 2003, and respectfully requests that the application move forward to allowance with Claims 14-17 as set out in paragraph 5 of the Office Action.

Present Invention

The present invention is an anchoring system for portable barricades or barriers, portable delineators, road bollards and the like. Specifically, conventional portable barricade or barrier that has an elongated board or plan, horizontally disposed on one elongated side edge thereof, supported at either end by a trestle or other support frame at a predetermined height above the ground. Applicant's invention has a V-shaped vessel with a cavity for receiving fluidic ballasting material, a vertical post that fits into the upper end of the vessel, with the upper end of the post having horizontally extending slots. The V-shaped vessel has a preformed raised central portion that is adapted to straddle the lower horizontal cross bar of a conventional portable barricade or barrier. Optionally, the upper end of the post can incorporate a warning light. The aim of the invention is to replace the need for using sand bags or concrete blocks to hold the barriers or barricades in place. A further aim is to provide an anchoring system that addresses the occupational health and safety issues that surround the traditional barricade or barrier systems, wherein the persons using the barricades or barriers are required to lift heavy sand bags or concrete blocks traditionally used to hold the portable barricades or barriers in place.

Office Action

Turning now to the Office Action in greater detail, the paragraphing of the Examiner is adopted.

Paragraphs 1 - 4 (Obviousness)

The Examiner rejects Claims 18-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious in view of Stehle et al. (U.S. Patent 3,950,873) and further in view of Vockins (EP 176,973) and Priesemuth (DE 3940007). It is noted that in light of Applicant's previous amendments, the Examiner set forth new grounds for rejecting the claims.

Further, it is noted that the rejection of Claims 20 and 22 are basically identical to the rejection of those claims in the first office action.

In response, Applicant now cancels Claims 18-25.

Paragraph 5 (Allowance)


The Examiner has allowed Claims 14-17.

Applicant notes that the Examiner accepted Claim 14 as amended in Applicant's communication of April 16, 2003, and Claims 15-17 of Applicant's communication of December 5, 2001.

Applicant respectfully requests that the application be moved toward allowance with Claims 14-17.

All remaining and amended claims should be in condition for allowance. Early indication of allowability is respectfully requested. Should any minor points remain prior to issuance of a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,


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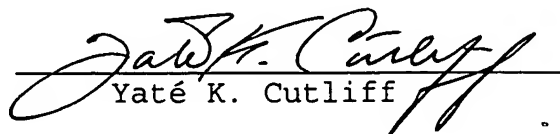
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Dated: **January 14, 2004**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL, CHANGE OF ADDRESS and a stamped receipt postcard for U.S. Application No. 10/009,967 filed December 5, 2001, were deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, addressed: Attn: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on **January 14, 2004**.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.


Yaté K. Cutliff